



Maryland Department  
of the Environment

## FACTS ABOUT: Recycling

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### BALTIMORE COUNTY RECYCLING

#### Coordinator/Staff

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#### Waste Diversion Rate

- ▶ For calendar year 2013, 37% recycling rate + 5% source reduction credit = 42% waste diversion rate.

#### Residential Program

##### *Collection*

- ▶ Baltimore County's once a week trash, once a week recycling collection program includes all of the County's 238,000 single-family homes and town homes. The full range of "single stream" recyclables (including paper, metal, plastic, and glass items) are collected, mixed together. Areas with a high level of yard materials (70% of the County) have a separate yard materials recycling collection from April into December. "Single stream" recycling collection also reaches 83,000 apartments and condominiums. The overall program is designed to maximize recycling and convenience, while holding down costs.

##### *Drop-off*

- ▶ Three recycling drop-off centers, strategically located around Baltimore County, accept the full range of "single stream" recyclables
- ▶ Antifreeze, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), fluorescent tubes, kerosene, lead-acid and rechargeable batteries, motor oil, scrap metal, thermometers (containing mercury), thermostats, and "white goods" (home appliances and air conditioners) are accepted for recycling at the Eastern Sanitary Landfill Solid Waste Management Facility (ESL) in White Marsh, Central Acceptance Facility (CAF) in Cockeysville, and Western Acceptance Facility (WAF) in Halethorpe. Propane tanks are accepted for recycling at ESL only.



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1800 Washington Boulevard | Baltimore, MD 21230-1718 | [www.mde.maryland.gov](http://www.mde.maryland.gov)  
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- ▶ Household hazardous waste (HHW) is accepted for recycling or proper disposal at ESL, April through November only. One-day collection events are also held twice each year. For more information, contact the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability (EPS) at 410-887-3745 or <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/environment/groundwatermgt/hazwaste.html>

#### *Processing/Marketing*

- ▶ The County's residential "single stream" recyclables are processed at the County's sorting facility, located at CAF in Cockeysville. The recyclables are marketed for the County by Maryland Environmental Service (MES).

#### *Yard Materials*

- ▶ The County promotes grasscycling and backyard composting (as well as rainwater conservation). Compost bin and rain barrel sales are generally co-hosted by the Bureau of Solid Waste Management and the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability (EPS) each spring.
- ▶ The County's compost site is located at ESL in White Marsh.

#### *Other Materials*

- ▶ Up to 4 clean passenger tires (rims removed) per trip may be brought to ESL, CAF, and WAF for recycling.
- ▶ Select reusable building materials are accepted at ESL and CAF.
- ▶ Christmas trees collected throughout the County the first two full weeks of January are mulched.

#### *Household Hazardous Waste*

- ▶ The Groundwater Management Section, Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability (EPS), has a drop-off program for recycling paint and gasoline and also administers the HHW program.
- ▶ Household hazardous waste is accepted at ESL, for recycling or proper disposal, April through November only. One-day collection events are also held twice each year. For more information, call the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability (EPS) at 410-887-3745 or visit its web site at <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/environment/groundwatermgt/hazwaste.html>

#### *Electronics*

- ▶ In September 2006, Baltimore County established a permanent e-cycling site at CAF in Cockeysville. In April 2009 Baltimore County opened additional e-cycling drop-off sites at ESL in White Marsh and WAF in Halethorpe.
- ▶ From September 2006 through December 2014, Baltimore County collected more than 21 million pounds of electronics for reuse or recycling



## **Commercial Program**

- ▶ A program to evaluate, track, and encourage commercial recycling, is administered by Baltimore County's Bureau of Solid Waste Management, with the assistance of the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority.

## **Public Buildings**

- ▶ Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) and the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) have "single stream" recycling collection programs at all schools and campuses, respectively.
- ▶ "Single stream" recycling collection has been implemented throughout the Towson complex of Baltimore County Government buildings, as well as many other County buildings.

## **Procurement**

- ▶ County purchasing law promotes the purchase of recycled content products and encourages waste minimization.

## **Public Education & Outreach**

- ▶ The County's Recycling & Waste Prevention Manager and Public Information Specialists, with help from interns and others, produce collection schedules and program guides, reuse directories, monthly newsletters, brochures, press releases, and other educational materials. Outreach efforts also include tours of the County's single stream sorting facility, school and community group presentations, participation in public events, marketing campaigns, maintaining a web site ([www.baltimorecountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/recycling)), etc.

## **Disposal**

- ▶ The commercial tipping fee at ESL in White Marsh is \$100 per ton.

## **Financing/Budget**

- ▶ The recycling program is financed through the General Fund. The Recycling Division is part of the Bureau of Solid Waste Management, Department of Public Works.



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